

Space News

ROUNDDUP!

NASA

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MANNED SPACECRAFT CENTER, LANGLEY STATION, HAMPTON, VA.

MARCH 21, 1962

Carpenter Replaces Slayton On MA-7

Deke Still In Program, Say MSC Officials

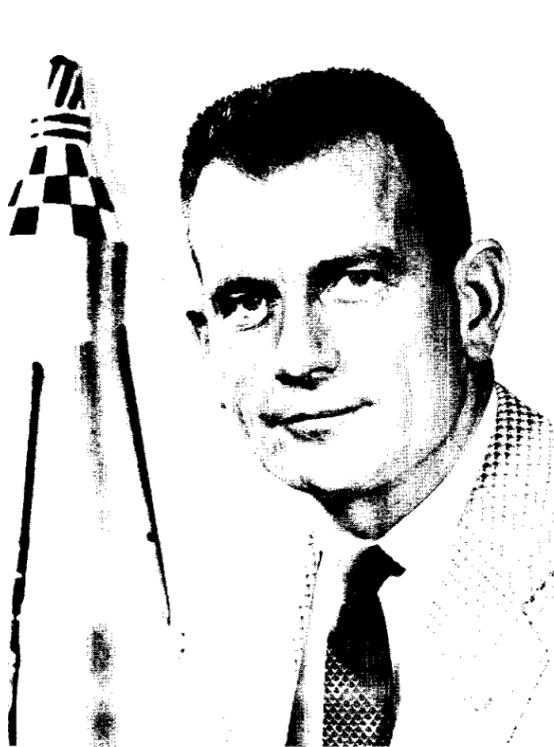
Manned Spacecraft Center officials emphasized last week that the decision to change pilots in the proposed MA-7 flight because of Astronaut Donald K. Slayton's irregular heartbeat "would not eliminate Deke from the program."

"There are many unknowns still in this program; right now we felt that others who are sounder at the moment might be more appropriate," Public Affairs Officer John Powers told newsmen at a press conference Friday. "When we get to the point where there are not too many unknowns, this will not be a disqualifying condition."

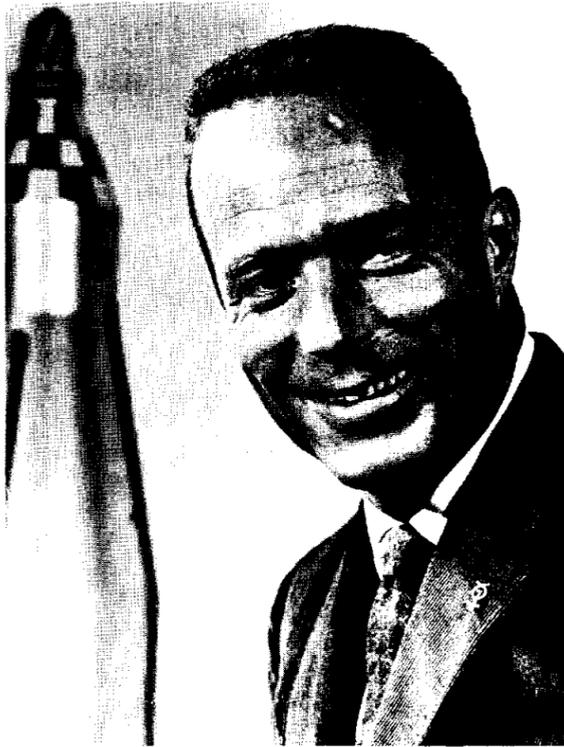
"We expect to keep Deke flying right on down the road."

Later in the week, at ceremonies honoring MSC Director Robert R. Gilruth and the seven astronauts in

(Continued on page 3)



Astronaut Donald K. "Deke" Slayton



Astronaut M. Scott Carpenter

'Erratic Heart' Cited As Cause For Substitution

"I didn't expect to view this assignment with mixed emotions," astronaut M. Scott Carpenter told newsmen last week. "I hate to be a part of something which is such a great disappointment to Deke."

He referred to Thursday's decision of a civilian medical team not to allow Astronaut Donald K. "Deke" Slayton to make the next orbital flight. Carpenter, back-up pilot during Astronaut John H. Glenn's orbital flight Feb. 20, was chosen in Slayton's place "because we wanted to use his experience in the Glenn flight immediately," according to Public Affairs Officer John Powers.

Commented Slayton, who learned of the decision late Thursday afternoon: "I am quite obviously very disappointed . . . I assumed I would go . . . You feel the same way you'd feel about anything when you get shot out of the saddle unexpectedly."

Dr. William Douglas, personal physician to the astronauts, told a

(Continued on page 2)

Peninsula Turns Out For 'Mercury Day'

The seven astronauts, together in public for only the second time since the MA-6 flight, toured the streets of Hampton and Newport News along with MSC officials Saturday as the Virginia Peninsula turned out for a rousing welcome.

Crowds cheered, flags waved and all the theater marquees read, "Greetings NASA; We Salute You."

The day-long festivities began with a short ceremony in the Langley AFB theater for MSC employees

and their families, and climaxed with a public observance in Hampton's Darling Memorial Stadium.

In between came a luncheon at the Langley AFB Officer's Club and a 22-mile parade through downtown Newport News and then central Hampton. The procession, some 50 cars long, stretched back for a half-mile from the open car in which Astronaut Glenn and his attractive wife Annie waved at the crowd.

Even the weatherman cooperated with a sunny day and a brisk breeze. The latter made things a bit chilly for those riding in open convertibles and caused at least one photographer to lose his hat along Mercury Boulevard.

Although the procession did not slow to a "parade pace" until it reached downtown Newport News, several thousand people lined the route from the main gate of Langley AFB down Mercury Boulevard

to the Warwick Boulevard intersection. Cars were lined up in a double row in the northbound lane of N. King Street as drivers and passengers strained to get a glimpse of the astronauts.

Children, many of them waving American flags or holding up signs, swarmed along the shoulders and center island of four-lane Mercury Boulevard. Just before the entrance to the James River Bridge the procession turned left and proceeded down Warwick Boulevard and 37th Street to Washington Avenue in the heart of Newport News business district.

Here crowds packed the sidewalks and camera bugs leaned from the tops of theater marquees to take snapshots. With no tall buildings to use, the confetti-throwers were somewhat frustrated, but they tried.

Businessmen had their own brand of special decor. One luncheonette put up a large menu reading, "We are in orbit with our NASA specials—Space-Filling Hot Dogs, Delicious Coffee from the Launching Pad, Orbit Banana Splits."

As the procession crossed the railroad bridge on 25th Street, the train below whistled and John Glenn reached into mid-air to jerk an imaginary whistle-lanyard.

Virtually the same scene as in Newport News greeted the parade participants on Queen Street, in the business section of Hampton.

(Continued on page 3)

Secretary To Astronauts Stumps Panel

Miss Nancy Lowe, secretary to the seven astronauts, thoroughly stumped a panel of four on the TV show "What's My Line?" Sunday night, winning \$50 in the process.

Early in the game regular panel members Arlene Francis, Dorothy Kilgallen and Bennet Cerf discovered Miss Lowe worked for "a government agency" and a couple of questions later discovered it was the federal government. Miss Francis then unearthed the fact that Nancy was "a secretary to somebody important."

But although Nancy's hometown had been given as Poquoson, Va., at the start of the questioning, none of the panel members ever connected her with either NASA or the Manned Spacecraft Center. When the answer was revealed all four grinned sheepishly.

Moderator John Charles Daly, having seen the astronauts at a dinner given by Washington's Gridiron Club the night before, noted that there was one point he should bring out.

"I am told," said Daly, "that Nancy is the twist champion of Cocoa Beach, Fla."



EVEN THE MARQUEES shout "Greetings" as Astronaut John H. Glenn waves at the crowds and his wife Annie smiles. The scene is Washington Avenue in downtown Newport News during the parade for "Project Mercury Day" last Saturday. In cars behind Glenn are the other six astronauts and NASA and MSC officials, as well as state and local leaders.

Health, Service Drives Begin Here April 30

Annual fund raising campaigns for both the National Health Agencies and the Federal Service Joint Crusade will get underway here March 9, and last through April 30.

The National Health Agencies group includes 10 participating agencies concerned with multiple sclerosis, crippled children, blindness, cancer, heart disease, arthritis and rheumatism, muscular dystrophy, cerebral palsy, mental illness and retarded children.

The Federal Service Joint Crusade provides an opportunity to contribute to Radio Free Europe, the American-Korean Foundation and CARE.

Envelopes will be distributed to all employees with their paychecks of March 29. Time and attendance clerks will receive a "Keyman's Kit" for each of the two campaigns, collect the completed envelopes and answer questions. Envelopes should be turned in to Miss Carol Hicks, Room 201, Building 519 by attendance clerks.

Contributions within an area go to that area's local affiliates of the National Health Agencies. Contributors are urged to designate the National Health Agencies to which they want their contributions to go. Undesignated funds will be divided in proportion to designated contributions.

Contributors to the Federal Service Joint Crusade may also designate the agency of their choice, and undesignated contributions will be divided equally among the three agencies.

Neither drive has a quota or a pledge, but seeks increased giving on a voluntary basis.

The following persons will be responsible for collecting contributions in each department: Mary Jo Miller, 2357, Office of Director; Carol Bristow, 2273, Digital Computers; Joyce Robins, 153, Technical Services; Sandra Hall, 2251, Administrative Service; Carol Hicks, 178, Financial Management; Joan Samonski, 2202, Gemini; Kathryn Linn, 2210, Mercury; Judy Phifer, 2296, Flight Operations; Jeannine Thompson, 187, Flight Crew Operations; Phoncille DeVore, 2266, Chairman 1961 Campaign; Judy Sonier, 2227, Project Engineering; Alan Doyle, 144, Personnel.



BOY SCOUT, EXPLORER SCOUT and astronauts. These two youngsters had their pictures taken with four of the astronauts Monday for publicity on the upcoming State of Massachusetts Scout Jamboree. Left to right are Alan B. Shepard, Jr., Barry Michael, 14, of Cambridge, Mass., John H. Glenn, Jr., Bill Horn, 17, of Cambridge, L. Gordon Cooper, Jr., and Donald K. "Deke" Slayton.

4 Astronauts Pose With Mass. Eagle Scouts

Two Massachusetts Eagle Scouts, one of them an Explorer Scout and "space advisor" to Explorer Post No. 48 in Cambridge, had their pictures taken with Astronauts John H. Glenn, Jr., Alan B. Shepard, Jr., L. Gordon Cooper, and Don Slayton, Monday.

The picture will be used in support of the State of Massachusetts Jamboree for 24,000 Scouts to be held next month in Boston Garden. Theme of the program this year is President Kennedy's physical fitness program. The pictures will be released to major newspapers and magazines throughout the state, and around the country as well.

The boys were 17-year-old William Horn and 14-year-old Barry Michael, both of Cambridge, Mass. Bill Horn has already entered the Explorer Scouting program, the advanced stage of Scouting which was formed several years ago for older Boy Scouts. As might be expected, his specialty is the space program.

'Tidewater' Lives Up To Its Name

The worst tidal floods since 1933 hit the aptly-named Tidewater Section around Langley AFB March 7, putting much of the Manned Spacecraft Center under several inches of water and interrupting power and heat services.

At least four MSC employees and their families had to be evacuated from their homes by boat as the water washed over property near waterfront areas, causing millions of dollars in damage. Automobiles, rugs, clothing and personal possessions were soaked and ruined, or swept away entirely.

Many roads in the Hampton-Newport News area were impassible by mid-morning, and stayed that way into the following day.

Nobody realized early Wednesday just how bad it was going to get. Most MSC employees came to work at 8 a.m., driving through

slushy melting snow and encountering no more than a few inches of water over the roads here and there.

Then, as a 9:45 a.m. high-tide approached, wind-driven water moved in toward buildings along the waterfront on the east side of the field. Administrative leave for all employees was declared. Those that left immediately got out without delay, but many stayed on and were soon marooned.

As sea-water moved into the east side, lights went off, heat failed, telephone lines went out. Stranded employees paced around gloomy rooms in coats, waiting for the ebb. Some were evacuated by boat. Others stared out windows at water rising around the wheels of their parked cars. It was chilly for wading, but one or two hardy souls got from one building to another that way.

Happily, the flood was short-lived. By mid-afternoon the water was down, traffic was moving normally

Carpenter Replaces

(Continued from page 1)

press conference Friday that Slayton's condition was a "grossly irregular" heart beat, without any known cause. "Many people have this condition," Douglas added.

Commenting on the disparity between the Air Force medical board, which passed Slayton for the flight, and the civilian cardiologists who countermanded the decision, Douglas said it was "a difference of opinion."

Slayton noted that he could tell when the condition occurred, but had flown when it was apparent with no ill effect. "I have done everything with it that I can do without it," he said, and added that his cure for it was to "get out and run two or three miles."

"In my opinion it isn't anything unhealthy; it's just like having one blue and one brown eye."

Robert R. Gilruth, director of the Manned Spacecraft Center, said earlier in a press conference in Washington that "Deke is an extremely competent engineer-test pilot and entirely capable of the mission. In no case has this abnormality interfered with Deke's performance."

Officials emphasized the condition was not due to the centrifuge training, during which it first showed up, or to any other part of the astronaut's training schedule.

As to whether it would clear up later, Dr. Douglas said no, that Slayton would probably have the condition "for the rest of his life."

Carpenter steps into the pilot's shoes with approximately one-third of the preparations of the MA-7 flight completed. Asked about changes he would make, Carpenter said he "might choose a different name than Deke chose," but thought Deke would "still recognize his flight plan."

Asked one reporter Friday night, "When do you start work?"

"Tomorrow," said Carpenter.

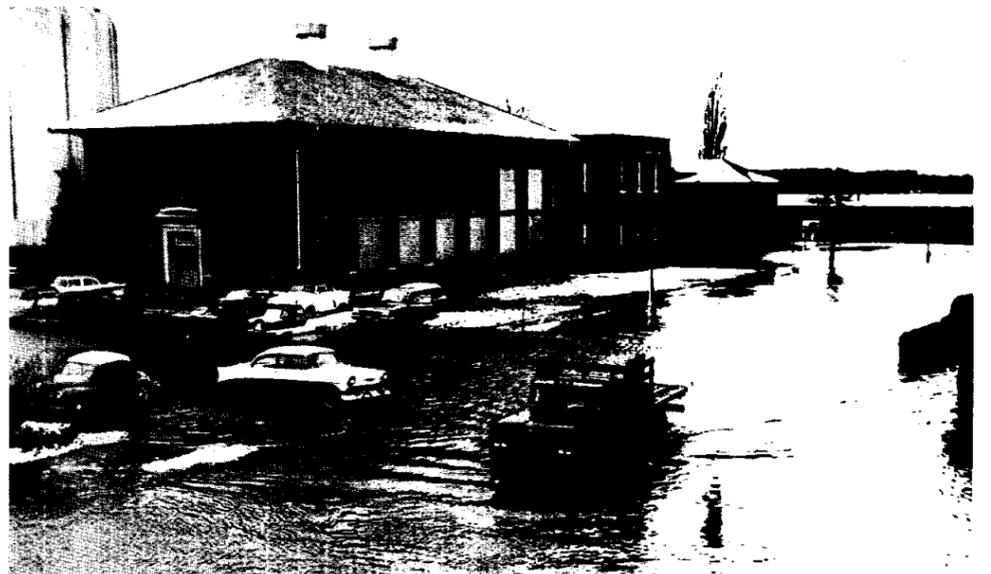
"What about the parade?" the reporter asked.

"I start working tomorrow night," conceded Carpenter.

and things were more or less on an even keel, except for jammed telephone service over the few remaining outside lines and a lack of heat through the next day in some of the buildings.



HIGH AND DRY, comparatively, occupants of this truck splash past the NASA Headquarters Building at Langley during the worst tidal flood in this area in 29 years. By the time this picture was taken most people had gone home. Those that were left were stranded—unless they liked wading.



A SALT-WATER LAKE surrounds the building that houses the astronauts, the suit-room and the Alpha Trainer, among other things, at Langley AFB. The truck in the center of the picture was used to haul a small boat to the building nearest the waterfront. By mid-afternoon this area was dry again, as the tide receded.



MANNED SPACECRAFT CENTER NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION HEADQUARTERS

SIX OF THE SEVEN Project Mercury Astronauts went to Houston for a briefing early in March. Backing up the sign outside the Farnsworth Chambers (Headquarters) Building are Donald Slayton, Gordon Cooper, Alan Shepard, MSC Director R. R. Gilruth, Scott Carpenter, Walter Schirra, and Virgil Grissom.

Peninsula Turns Out

(Continued from page 1)

Each of the 40 convertibles in the motorcade bore an astronaut and his family, an MSC official, or one of a number of local and state dignitaries present for the occasion. Signs on the side of each car identified its occupants for the crowds.

Children climbed on the shoulders of their taller parents to get a better view, and smiled and shouted when the astronauts returned their waves. "Look, look, he's waving at ME!" screamed one little girl of about 10 as John Glenn's car passed. People stopped work in gas stations or stores and residents crowded onto front porches with their neighbors.

The mayors of Newport News, Hampton and Poquoson, sponsoring cities for "Project Mercury Day," led the procession in red, white and blue cars. Then came John and Mrs. Glenn; Virginia's governor Albert S. Harrison; Lieutenant Governor Mills E. Godwin, Jr.; Senator Harry Flood Byrd, of Virginia; Congressman George P. Miller, Olin Teague, Bob Casey, and Thomas N. Downing, all members of the House Space Committee; the other six astronauts and MSC and NASA officials.

The parade began at 1:30 p.m. and wound up at 2:45 at Darling Memorial Stadium in Hampton, for a public ceremony honoring MSC director Robert Gilruth and the seven astronauts.

M. Byrnes Named To Texas Library Week Committee

Martin A. Byrnes, NASA Manned Spacecraft Site Manager in Houston, has been named to the Texas Library Week Committee by Governor Price Daniel. The week will run April 8-14.

Committee members will be present at the dedication ceremony for the new \$2,500,000 Texas Archives and Library Building slated for April 10 as the high point of Library Week.

Langley Mailing Address Changes

The official address of the Manned Spacecraft Center at Langley has been changed, effective March 15, according to an announcement from MSC officials.

The old address was NASA Manned Spacecraft Center, Langley AFB, Va. This is now changed to NASA Manned Spacecraft Center, Langley Station, Hampton, Va.

Deke

(Continued from page 1)

Hampton's Darling Memorial Stadium. Powers told the crowd:

"Despite what you may have heard to the contrary, we still have a solid seven-man team of pilots—all red hot for flights."

Said Gilruth himself: "In no case has this abnormality interfered with Deke's performance. My own feeling is that Deke is . . . entirely capable of the mission."

Credit Union Elects Officers

The Manned Spacecraft Center Credit Union met and elected its first officer March 7.

President of the new organization is Roy C. Aldridge. Vice President is Dave Lang; treasurer, Bob Bailey and secretary, Norm Smith.

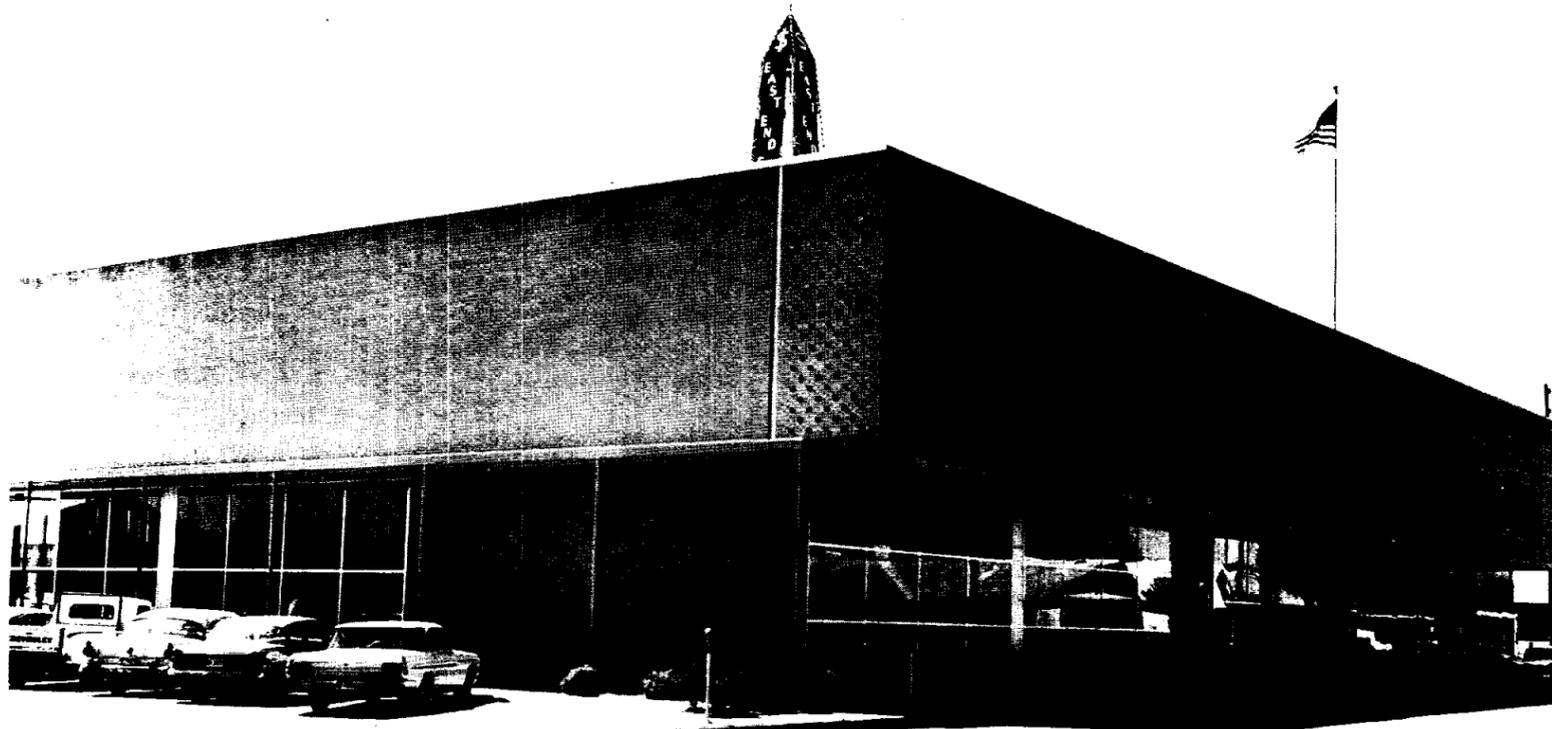
Deposits will be accepted between the hours of 10 a.m. and noon Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays through the month of March. They should be made at Room 159 in the Farnsworth Chambers Building.

As of April 1, the Credit Union will have its own offices in the East End State Bank Building, the same building in which the personnel offices will be located. The Credit Union hopes to be able to start its loan program by that date.

In order to survive, the Credit Union needs your support. Depositors are urged to help launch the operation as soon as possible.



THE FIRST DEPOSITOR for the Manned Spacecraft Center Credit Union just formed in Houston presents his check to Mrs. Lydia May, secretary to Credit Union president Roy C. Aldridge. He is Bill Milam, who started the ball rolling March 12.



THE MOST RECENT ADDITION to MSC's Houston plant is the East End Bank Building, at 4200 Leeland. NASA will occupy some 15,000 square feet in the building, beginning sometime during the month of April. Tenants will include the Security Office, the Personnel Office and the recently-formed MSC Credit Union.



RENE CARPENTER gets an assist with her corsage from Scott as Annie Glenn looks on.



A PORTION OF THE CROWD which lined the streets of downtown Hampton for the parade is shown on Queen Street.



FROM SPACE - Feb. 20 - TO SPACETOWN - March 17.



CONGRESSMAN Thomas N. Downing, local representative and member of the House Space Committee, spoke briefly and introduced visiting dignitaries.



HONORED GUESTS ON THE SPEAKERS' STAND at the stadium included, left to right, U. S. Senator Harry F. Byrd, Mrs. Alan B. Shepard, Jr., Astronaut Shepard, and Walter C. Willians, Associate Director of Manned Spacecraft Center.



CONGRESSMAN BOB CASEY, a Texas Member of the House Space Committee, and Mrs. Casey, acknowledged their introduction to the Tidewater audience.



MA-7 PILOT DESIGNEE M. Scott Carpenter smiles approval as California Congressman George P. Miller, Chairman of the House Space Committee is introduced.



"THE ROCK" and her husband respond warmly to the crowds in Hampton's streets.



AUTOGRAPH SEEKERS crowd close to the speakers' platform at Darling Stadium for Glenn's signature as master of ceremonies Thomas Chisman (left) tries to get the festivities underway.



YOUNG KENT SLAYTON seems to have found a friend at left in Candace Carpenter, who seizes a spare moment at the Officers' Club luncheon to soothe his fevered brow. Above, astronaut Walter M. Schirra, a resident of the Hampton area, thanks his friends and neighbors for their good will at Darling Stadium. At right, John and Annie Glenn enter the base theater for an appearance before assembled MSC employees.



FRONT ROW CAMERA BUGS have a rare chance for a good shot here as Astronaut John H. Glenn descends from the parade car to enter the platform at Darling Stadium.



THE FIRST COUPLE of Virginia and the first couple of space: left to right, Governor and Mrs. Albertis S. Harrison, and Astronaut and Mrs. John H. Glenn, Jr.

The SPACE NEWS ROUNDUP, an official publication of the Manned Spacecraft Center, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, Langley Station, Hampton, Va., is published for MSC personnel by the Public Affairs Office.

Director Robert R. Gilruth
Public Affairs Officer John A. Powers
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Editorial

For the past two years the seven Project Mercury Astronauts have formed one of the most solid and dedicated teams this country has ever seen. They have worked endless hours together. They have worked even more hours separately—each in his own specialized field.

All of the knowledge gained individually has become common knowledge of all the team members as a result of frequent "skull" sessions held by the group since they were first brought together in April 1959.

From April 1959 until this time the team has presented a solid front. Shepard, Grissom, and Glenn have proclaimed before and after their suborbital and orbital flights that this was a team effort.

And, while insisting that these flights were team efforts, they made certain that they were not referring to just the astronaut team. Rather they were pointing up the fact that the successes they achieved were the end result of the entire Manned Spacecraft Center team—from support personnel through technicians and engineers to operations personnel and the astronauts themselves.

A further proof of this solidarity was offered last week following the announcement that "Deke" Slayton would not be able to pilot the Mercury-Atlas 7 mission because of an erratic heart beat. All of the team viewed the decision with mixed emotions because all of them want to do their utmost in this Manned Space program. Every member of the team felt genuine sympathy for Slayton because of his great disappointment just as each of them felt happy for M. Scott Carpenter on his selection as prime pilot for the MA-7 flight.

All MSC personnel, all NASA personnel, and all Americans should and can be justifiably proud of their number one team—the Project Mercury Astronauts.

On The Lighter Side



"There's one thing about these Mercury press conferences you can't deny—they're never dull."

EDITORIAL EXCERPTS

SPACE RACE IS A SERIOUS, ADULT BUSINESS

BY WILLIAM S. WHITE

WASHINGTON — This whole country's understandable emotional binge over the orbital flight of John Glenn Jr. has done this whole country good.

There has been a long twilight of gloom for free men here and everywhere as they saw the massively advertised earlier successes of the Russians—and while knowing nothing of carefully hidden Russian failures. It is right that rejoicing should follow alarm and concern.

It is now the morning-after, however. Now, all the jubilation should be succeeded by more sober and workaday concerns. The very first of these concerns should be a careful national planning to take space experimentation out of the emotional category of a football game or a foot race. The public requires education in the basic fact that this is an immensely serious and adult business in which there is only one real possibility that we shall "lose."

There is nothing whatever to suggest that the Russians are, or ever have been, capable of outdoing us in the truly useful aspects of the new art. There never was anything so to prove—not even when the Russians were putting up big vehicles around the earth while we were still putting up none.

For in this, as in every other high public policy, the heart of the matter is the selection of alternatives, the choice of one priority over another. Our priority has been to do first a sound, slow job of fundamentals, all the fundamentals. The Soviet Union's priority has been to put its all, at whatever cost to later genuine progress, into getting up there first.

We are trying to conquer space in order to insure peace. The Russians are trying to use space in order to conquer other things—including the will and determination of the West in the whole range of the Cold War. They have put their money on conquering some aspects of space—but all of the world's current headlines.

This is why there is great need to cause the public to see the problem in its whole. There is now good reason to suspect that the Russians will shortly put on another space spectacular, seemingly dwarfing that of Colonel Glenn.

If this happens and the American people have not been educated to the true nature of the problems and purposes of space experimentation, the hip-hip-hooray for Colonel Glenn may turn, instantly, into sour and extreme public disappointment. We shall all be down in the mouth again — and our Western Allies as well — and we shall all be assuming that the Russians are not merely "seven feet tall" but rather millions of miles tall.

What is now required is for the quiet men who direct the space effort—Administrator James Webb and Vice-President Lyndon Johnson, the ultimately responsible head under President Kennedy — to go right on running the "race" where it ought to be run.

MSC PERSONALITY

Meet Assistant Director For Administration, W. L. Hjernevik

"You can see my career had a definite plan; I started out in the Executive Office of the President worked my way down into the field," quips Wesley L. Hjernevik. "The field" he refers to is his present position of Assistant Director for Administration, Manned Spacecraft Center.

And in spite of his remark about being a "very dull character," Hjernevik has led a lively career. In addition to his professional responsibilities he is the father of five boys and addicted to family camping trips "with tents and things, all over the state of Virginia." (In the future, says Hjernevik, they will be all over the state of Texas.)

Immediately after his graduation from North Dakota State College

trator to deal with special organizational and programming problems, and to act as liaison with other agencies in effecting working agreements with NASA.

In December of 1959, Hjernevik was appointed deputy director of Business Administration, specializing in work with the financial and procurement programs. He was chairman of the Budget Analysis Team for the 1962 budget and participated in a number of major management projects such as plans for the transfer of the ABMA groups, the exploration and advisory work on the location of the Space Task Group, field organization in the Life Sciences Program and contacts with the AEC in the definition of the NERVA program and joint AEC-NASA Nuclear Propulsion Project.

Appointed Assistant Director for Administration on June 15, 1961, Hjernevik is responsible for working relationships with other agencies, industry and state and local governments; development of management relationships between NASA and contractor groups in aerospace research and development; provision of administrative and technical support services to the research and developments functions; planning and directing the financial management program; and directing internal administrative support services including personnel, security and administrative services.

Personable and scholarly-looking, Hjernevik is an active outdoorsman. His most time-consuming hobby in addition to the family camping trips is working with the Boy Scouts. Finding no troop here when he came to Langley, he organized one himself and has been a leader ever since. The Hjernevik family has contributed three youngsters to the Scouting program, and will undoubtedly have five Scouts as soon as the youngest boys are old enough.

Hjernevik and his wife, Ivey Mae, are the proud parents of Dale, 13, David, 12, Daniel, 8, Douglas, 7, and D. Quincy, 6. "Notice the sequence?" grins Hjernevik. "We were adding one letter per name until we got to the fifth one, but the only thing we could think of beginning with a D that had eight letters was Dinwitty. So we settled for D. Quincy, to indicate 'five.'"

Hjernevik claims he was a "book-worm" in college, concentrating on his grades (he was a member of Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society) and the part-time job which helped support him and his wife. His first few months of college were interrupted by World War II and three years with the 79th Division. As an NCO in the medics he saw duty in Germany, France, Austria, Norway, Sweden and Denmark.

The Hjernevik family will be living on the shores of a bayou in Texas, and a family council has already planned the mode of transportation by water. The boys don't want a motorboat or a sailboat—"They want two canoes," says Hjernevik.



WESLEY L. HJORNEVIK

with a BS in Economics, he began some nine years with the Bureau of the Budget (Executive Office of the President), advancing rapidly to the principal budget examiner for the programs of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, the Federal Civil Defense Administration and the National Science Foundation.

In 1957, Hjernevik transferred to the Department of Health, Education and Welfare as Assistant to the Under Secretary, performing a variety of both continuing and special assignments related to the direction of the department.

The following year, he joined NASA as assistant to the adminis-

WELCOME ABOARD

Only 14 new personnel reported for duty at the Manned Spacecraft Center here at Langley Feb. 27-March 12, since most of the new employees are starting immediately at Houston. New arrivals at Langley include:

Procurement and Supply Office: David F. Bruce.

Space Physics Division: Paige B. Burbank.

Technical Information Office: Retha A. Shirkey.

Technical Services: Dave W. Corbett and Frank C. Cleneski.

Public Affairs Offices: Robert V. Gordon and Forrest L. Sealey.

Gemini Project Office: Susan H. Cozzoni and Kenneth N. Warren.

Mercury Project Office: John H. Boynton and Bernard J. McGee.

Flight Operation Division: LaRue W. Burbank, James B. McCaulley and James B. Copenhaver.

Stadium Program

(Continued from page 8)

Democratic government in world was first introduced, Miller pointed out that the exploration of outer space was "not a stunt . . . for our entertainment . . . but for the peaceful development of this world."

MSC Public Affairs Officer John A. Powers introduced the seven astronauts and a number of top center personnel, as well as NASA Associate Administrator Robert C. Seamans, Jr. Included were MSC Director Robert R. Gilruth; Associate Director Walter C. Williams; Paul E. Purser, special assistant to Gilruth; Wesley Hjernevik, assistant director for administration; Christopher C. Kraft, chief of the Flight Operations Division; James Chamberlin, Gemini project officer; K. S. Kleinchnecht, Mercury Project officer; G. Merritt Preston, chief of the Preflight Operations Division; and Dr. Stanley White, chief of the Life Systems Division.

Powers asked Glenn to say a few words. Glenn told the crowd he felt the main thanks should go to the members of the team "further downhill," and rather than being concentrated on himself alone. He then asked astronaut Walter M. Schirra, a resident of the Stoneybrook section, to speak for those as the center who lived among Peninsula residents. "Since my family and I were already living in Arlington," added Glenn, "it wasn't necessary for us to move to become Virginians."

Schirra told the crowd that it was "really a thrill for us to receive the thanks of our neighbors and friends . . ."

The invocation was given by Dr. John H. Garber, pastor of Hampton Baptist Church, and the benediction by Dr. Paul K. Buckles of the First Presbyterian Church in Newport News. Music at the stadium was furnished by the 50th Army Band from the Continental Army Command at Ft. Monroe and by the 564th Air Force Band from Langley.



ALMOST BURIED behind bulging mailbags, Astronaut John H. Glenn, Jr., takes a quick look at the size of his correspondence. It will all take time, but each of the thousands of letter-writers will receive an answer.

MSC Personnel Get Close Look At Astronauts And Families

The words on the marquee of the base theater—"Two Rode Together"—might have been a prediction for Project Gemini Saturday as the seven Project Mercury astronauts gathered for the benefit of MSC personnel.

"All of you made possible the 25 flights so far," John Powers, Public Affairs Officer, told the employees and their families.

"You may remember the furry citizen who made one of the earlier flights—a fellow named Ham. Unfortunately he couldn't be with us today. He had a previous speaking engagement."

Powers introduced Alan Shepard and Virgil I. "Gus" Grissom, who

made the first manned flights; mentioned Enos, the chimp on the first orbital flight; and then introduced the "four unsung members of our team," L. Gordon Cooper, M. Scott Carpenter, Donald K. Slayton and Walter M. Schirra.

Pilot for the first manned orbital mission John H. Glenn told the packed theater, "This is like being one big happy family here at Langley."

Letters To Glenn By The Thousand

Letters to John Glenn—thousands of them each day—are still pouring into the special John H. Glenn Mail Room, now located in Building 519 at Langley AFB. As of March 12, when the special mail room had been in operation less than 10 working days, more than 10,000 letters had been opened and sorted. There were 15 mailbags and a dozen pasteboard boxes of mail still untouched, and the mammoth job of answering the mail already sorted had not yet begun.

"More comes in every day," says Shirley Hatley, one of four girls working weekdays and Saturdays on the Glenn mail. "We don't even feel like we're making a dent."

It comes from everywhere—from school children, laboriously printed in pencil on ruled notebook paper by first graders, or neatly typed by high school and college students; from businessmen, on professional letterheads; from sweet old ladies; from organizations of every conceivable size and purpose.

Strange but wonderful is the fact that out of perhaps 10,000 letters in the first batches there were only a handful of "crank" letters, about a dozen.

Because much of the mail is mis-sent to Cape Canaveral or elsewhere, and must be rerouted to Langley, its arrival is uneven. One day eight boxes and six bags may come in; the next day only one. It is first opened and stapled to its envelope; then sorted into piles according to content for answering.

Mail comes in for John's wife Annie, and for his parents as well as to Glenn himself, and there are many letters for the two Glenn children. Some are addressed to the family as a whole. Writers request pictures, ask technical questions, report radio monitorings of the orbital flight; some want information on Glenn's training or his background. Thousands of school children, preparing reports or essays on either Glenn or his flight, write in asking for information.

And there is the stamp problem. On the day of Glenn's flight, the Post Office Department released a new four-cent edition called the "First Manned Orbital Commemorative Stamp." Many a confused letter-writer is seeking the stamps through either John Glenn himself or NASA, apparently under the impression that the Manned Spacecraft Center puts them out. These letters must be rerouted to the Post Office.

Autograph seekers by the hundred are included in the mail—the strangest to date being the one who

sent in over five pages of commemorative stamps and wanted John Glenn to please autograph each separate stamp. Commonly seen among the mail are letters asking that Glenn autograph the enclosed stamped envelope and mail it back to the writer from Cape Canaveral (for the Canaveral postmark.)

Most of the letters are from the United States, but approximately a fourth of those which had been opened at this writing were from foreign countries. The mail room staff say they have received letters from almost every foreign country in the world with the exceptions of China and Russia, many of them in foreign languages. Especially predominant are letters from France, Germany, Italy and England.

Included are many gifts from fan clubs or groups which have sprung up all over the country. There are medals, badges, awards, honorary memberships, resolutions, and dozens of notifications that buildings, bridges, schools, and other structures are being named or re-named "the John H. Glenn" something-or-other.

"The ones that really get to you are the letters from the first and second graders," remarked one of the mail room girls. We picked up the indicated envelope. In it were perhaps two dozen laboriously written letters, obviously carefully copied from the form letter that a teacher had put on the blackboard. "Dear John Glenn: We are very happy that you landed safely. We saw you blast off into space. We heard you talk from your rocket, Friendship 7 Love, Carol. (Or John, or Harold or Janet.)" A few had added their own original comments, and questions, such as "Was it fun?" Except for that they were just alike.

And carefully stapled to each was a large picture of each child's interpretation of the flight, compounded from colored paper, bits of clay and pieces of cloth and crayon. Said a note from their teacher:

"They are waiting anxiously for an answer, if your busy schedule permits."

The youngsters will get their answer.

29 Transfers To Houston

Administrative Services: Maude B. Jordan, Roy L. Magin, and Alphonse M. Theil.

Apollo: Paul E. Fitzgerald, Jr. and Kenneth L. Turner.

Office of Assistant Director for Research and Development: Donald T. Gregory.

Financial Management Office: Roger G. Henderson, Douglas R. Hendrickson and Robert M. Welner.

Flight Operations Division: Milton L. Windler.

Gemini Project Office: Homer W. Botts, Galloway B. Foster and William C. Muhly.

Management Analysis Office:

Robert B. Morrifield.

Management Services Division: Hanzel L. Walker.

Procurement and Supply: James I. Brownlee and Kathryn K. Walker.

Security Office: Donald D. Blume.
Spacecraft Research Division: K. Joan Clemens, James G. Hondros, Richard C. Kennedy, Charles W. Mathews, Thomas E. Moore, Robert E. Vale, and John H. Langford.

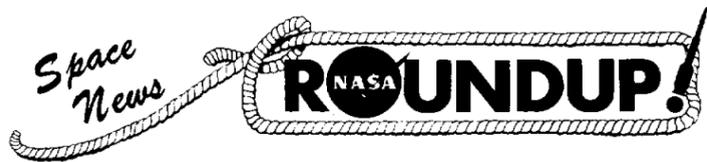
Space Physics Division: Paige B. Burbank.

Systems Evaluation and Development Division: Nicholas Jevan and William M. Keathley.

Technical Services: Charles B. Weis.



THE POST-FLIGHT REPORT of the Mercury Atlas-6 orbital mission is being carefully studied by Project Mercury leaders and the pilot. Left to right are Robert R. Gilruth, MSC director; MA-6 pilot John H. Glenn, Jr., and Walter C. Williams, MSC associate director.



SECOND FRONT PAGE

Stadium Program Honors Astronauts

"Project Mercury . . . has unlocked the door to the universe. In a sense this was a fulfillment for Virginia, too," Governor Albert S. Harrison told a crowd estimated at 5,000 in Darlington Memorial Stadium in Hampton, Saturday.

"Let it be said to the lasting credit of Project Mercury and of America, that we, too, risked spectacular success or disastrous failure with the whole world as our witness. The success of this endeavor is a success of freedom. Colonel Glenn's missile will become a milestone on the road to peace."

The ceremony climaxed a 22-mile parade through Newport News and Hampton, MSC Director Robert R. Gilruth accepted the first Virginia Peninsula Distinguished Service Award. Others will be tendered to Associate Director Walter C. Williams and the astronauts.

Governor Harrison presented Astronaut John H. Glenn with a framed copy of a joint resolution of the Virginia General Assembly, passed during Glenn's orbital flight, and praising his achievement.

The seven astronauts and their wives were seated in the first row of the stand, among top state and local officials.

Master of ceremonies for the occasion was WVEC radio and TV station president Thomas P. Chisman, who introduced distinguished guests, including the governor; Senator Harry F. Byrd of Virginia; Lieutenant Governor Mills Godwin; Congressmen George P. Miller, Olin E. Teague, Bob Casey and Thomas N. Downing; Newport News mayor O. J. Brittingham; Poquoson Mayor Jack Forrest; Hampton mayor George Bentley

and York County supervisor Rogers A. Smith.

Speaking of the Manned Spacecraft Center's impending move to Texas, Chisman pointed out that Sam Houston, namesake of the center's new location, and many other heroes of the Alamo were originally Virginians. "What I'm getting at is that it's nothing new for Virginians to add to the luster of Texas," he said.

Representative Thomas N. Downing of Virginia, a member of the House Space Committee, told the crowd that the state's pride was "tinged with sadness" because of the center's departure. "We extend the thanks of a grateful America and an even more grateful Virginia," he added. "God bless you and good luck."

Downing introduced Representative George P. Miller, chairman of the House Space Committee. Noting that it was Virginia that the

(Continued on page 7)



THE SPACE NEWS ROUNDUP garnered a "first" this month when Dudley Printers, Inc., received the "first among medium shops for a periodical" award from the Virginia State Printers Association. Dudley has been printing the Space News Roundup since publication began last November. Left to right are Manned Spacecraft Center director Robert R. Gilruth, Public Affairs Officer John A. Powers, Associate MSC Director Walter C. Williams and George Dudley, president of Dudley Printers.

MSC Reorganization Plans Include Number Of Changes

The arrival of new key MSC personnel during the past several months and the activation of new offices have resulted in changes in the organizational set-up. The changes were made in response to the needs of the three manned space flight research programs, and reflect the continued growth of the center.

Mercury and Gemini Project

Offices have been formed primarily by the reassignment of personnel from the old Engineering Division.

At the present time, with most of the top positions filled, the organizational framework is as follows:

Assisting Director Robert R. Gilruth and Associate Director Walter C. Williams are Raymond L. Zavasky and Donald T. Gregory as Technical Assistants. Paul E. Purser continues as Special Assistant to the Director.

James Chamberlin is the Manager of the Gemini Project Office with Paul M. Sturtevant as Special Assistant. Kenneth S. Kleinknecht is Manager of the Mercury Project Office with William M. Bland, Jr., as Deputy. The Apollo Project Office has Charles W. Frick as Manager and Robert O. Piland as Deputy.

Walter C. Williams is serving as Acting Assistant Director for Operations with G. Merritt Preston, Christopher C. Kraft, Jr., and Warren J. North serving, respectively, as Chiefs of the Preflight Operations Division, Flight Operations Division, and Flight Crew Operations. Dr. Stanley C. White is acting as Chief of the Aerospace Medical Operations Office.

Maxime A. Faget is the Assistant Director for Research and Development, a recently established position. Charles A. Mathews is Chief of the Spacecraft Research Division; Dr. Stanley C. White is Chief of the Life Systems Division; Aleck C. Bond is Chief of the Test & Evaluation Development Division. The position of Chief of the Space Physics Division is vacant.

Wesley L. Hjernevik is the Assistant Director for Administration with Philip H. Whitbeck as Depu-

ty Assistant Director and Martin A. Byrnes, Jr., as Manager of Center Operations. Charles F. Bingman is Chief of the Management Analysis Division; Stuart H. Clarke heads the Personnel Division; the Procurement and Contracts Division has Dave W. Lang as Chief; and the Security Division is headed by Donald D. Blume. The Financial Management Division has Rex L. Ray as Chief.

Reporting to Byrnes will be Leo T. Zbanek, Chief of the Facilities Division; Jack A. Kinzler, Acting Chief of the Technical Services Division; C. M. Grant, Jr., Chief of the Technical Information Division; Roy C. Aldridge, Acting Chief of the Administrative Division; and John R. Brinkman, Chief of Photographic Services. The position of Chief of the Logistics Division is vacant at this time.

Special staff members to Gilruth and Williams are John A. Powers, Public Affairs Officer; J. Wallace Oulds, Legal Officer; Frederick J. Bailey, Jr., Reliability & Flight Safety Officer; Thomas W. Briggs, Program Analysis & Evaluation Officer; and Thomas J. Cassais, Audit Officer. The position of Advanced Studies & Mission Analysis Officer is vacant.

The one major phase of the organization not yet set up is the office of the Assistant Director for Engineering Support. Under this office will be the Instrumentation and Data Systems Division; Design Engineering Division; and the Data Computation and Reduction Division. The latter division is operating now with Eugene Brock as Chief. He is presently reporting to Hjernevik.



THE ROBERT H. GODDARD MEMORIAL TROPHY of the National Rocket Club was presented in Washington last Friday night to Robert R. Gilruth "for personal dedication in leading the Project Mercury team which in 1961 achieved suborbital manned space flights and laid the groundwork for the first United States of America manned orbital flight." The Rocket Club makes the award annually to one who has made an outstanding contribution to space technology.